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*Situation at Key West.*

Quarantine at Key West was maintained until the 8th instant when it was raised by the State health officer. No new cases of suspected yellow fever had been reported during the two weeks previous. The marines, among whom the disease appeared and was confined, have been removed north, only the sick remaining in camp.

*Yellow fever in Mississippi.*

The suspicious cases at Orwood referred to in the last number of the PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS have been confirmed as yellow fever. The origin of the disease has been traced to Taylor, a town on the Illinois Central Railroad, where 5 cases developed about July 20, 1898; 2 of these moved to Orwood, where 35 cases of the disease had occurred up to the 4th instant; no deaths. These cases are reported to have been mild, like those of last year on the Mississippi coast. All necessary precautions have been taken to prevent the spread of the disease, including the tracing of persons who have left the infected district after exposure.

Surgeon Carter and Passed Assistant Surgeon Cobb are cooperating with the officers of the Mississippi State board of health at Taylor and Orwood, and Passed Assistant Surgeon Stimpson is at Holly Springs in charge of train inspection on Kansas City, Memphis and Birmingham Railroad, with Acting Assistant Surgeons Frick and Landry aiding in the work. Passed Assistant Surgeon McIntosh is awaiting orders at Grand Junction. Surgeon Carter wires from Taylor, September 7, "Three new cases here; Orwood not heard from. Will finish census and house-to-house inspection here to-morrow. All visiting between houses ordered stopped. Seven houses here have, or have had fever."

*Situation at Fort Point, Tex.*

Passed Assistant Surgeon J. M. Eager, Marine Hospital Service, under date of September 6, states that all the suspicious cases of sickness at Fort Point previously reported have recovered; that the quarantine of the State of Texas against Galveston was raised on the 29th ultimo, while that against Fort Point is still maintained, and no other cases of sickness in which there is suspicion of yellow fever have occurred in Galveston or elsewhere in Texas.

[Reports to the Supervising Surgeon-General, United States Marine-Hospital Service.]

*Transportation of dead bodies—Circular letter addressed to State health officers.*

WASHINGTON, D. C., August 24, 1898.

SIR: I have to respectfully request that you will furnish this Bureau with a copy of the laws and regulations governing the admission to and

transit through your State of bodies of persons dying of contagious disease or otherwise.

An early reply is desired for the reason that many inquiries are made of this Bureau from friends of soldiers who die in Cuba and Puerto Rico, who wish the bodies returned to the United States.

Respectfully, yours,

WALTER WYMAN,  
*Supervising Surgeon-General, U. S. M. H. S.*

*Abstract of replies received.*

CONNECTICUT.

According to section 113 of the general statutes, a dead body is allowed transportation from or into the limits of any town in the State, provided there be attached to the coffin or case containing such body a written or printed permit certifying the cause of death or disease of which such person died and the town in which such person is to be buried, and further certifying, in case said disease is shown on the permit to have been cholera, yellow fever, membranous croup, diphtheria, typhus fever, enteric fever, scarlet fever, measles, leprosy, smallpox, or other pestilential disease, that the body is inclosed in an air-tight coffin or case hermetically sealed and that it has been disinfected in accordance with the method prescribed from time to time by the State board of health.

ILLINOIS.

Rule 1. The transportation of bodies dead of smallpox, Asiatic cholera, yellow fever, typhus fever or bubonic plague, is absolutely forbidden.

Rule 2. The bodies of those who have died of diphtheria (membranous croup), scarlet fever, glanders, anthrax, or leprosy shall not be accepted for transportation unless prepared for shipment by being thoroughly disinfected by (a) arterial and cavity injection with an approved disinfectant fluid, (b) disinfecting and stopping of all orifices with absorbent cotton, and (c) washing the body with the disinfectant, all of which must be done by an embalmer, holding a certificate as such approved by the State board of health or other State health authority. After being disinfected as above the body shall be enveloped in a layer of cotton not less than 1 inch thick, completely wrapped in a sheet and bandaged, and encased in an air-tight zinc, tin, copper, or lead-lined coffin, hermetically sealed and inclosed in a strong wooden box.

Rule 3. Bodies dead of typhoid fever or other dangerous communicable disease not mentioned in rules 1 and 2 may be received for transportation when prepared for shipment by filling cavities with an approved disinfectant, washing the exterior of the body with the same, stopping all orifices with absorbent cotton, enveloping the body with a layer of cotton not less than 1 inch thick, wrapping in a sheet, bandaging and inclosing in an air-tight coffin. This shall apply only to bodies reaching their destination within forty-eight hours. In all other cases such bodies shall be prepared for transportation in conformity with rule 2. When the body is prepared by an embalmer holding a certificate from State board of health, air-tight sealing may be dispensed with.

Rule 4. Bodies dead of diseases that are not infectious or communicable may be received for transportation when encased in a sound coffin or casket, inclosed in a strong wooden box, provided they reach their destination within thirty hours. If they can not reach their destina-